



Riverside Neighborhood Partnership

Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2004, 6:30 p.m.

City Hall – 5th Floor large conference room

Members Present: Steve Stearns, Wivory Brandle, Dana Kruckenberg, Barbara Brown, Brian Percy, Erin House, Jay Dyer, David McNiel, E. Randy Akes, Jr., Christina Duran, Jacob Hernandez, Suzy Q. Parker, Laura Powers

Members Excused: Carolyn Hart, Heather Troxel, Annette Martinez Lievanos, Marisol Ruiz

Members Unexcused: Manuel Carrasco, Rita Nieto, John Arroyos, Pat Watson, Cynthia Woods, Nancy Hart

Guests: Mary Jane Dana, Willie Steels, Keith Alex, Etta Brown, Isabella Johnson, Evelyn Futch, Johnnie Miller, Anderson Copeland, Beverly Shelton, Jessica Shelton, Sophie Dudley, Oscar Toscano, Debra Hurtado, Marlo Naber, Roland Johnson, James Effinger

Staff: Eva Yakutis-McNiel, Director, Office of Neighborhoods

1. Welcome and Self-Introductions

Meeting was called to order by E. Randy Akes, Jr. at 6:35 p.m. Self-introduction of members and guests followed.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of April 5, 2004, with the following correction: David McNiel was not absent.

(Stearns/House/carried)

3. Subcommittee Report: Neighborhood Matching Grants

Chairman Jay Dyer moved for approval four grants submitted by the following neighborhood associations: 12th Street Neighbors, Michael Street Neighbors, Neighbors Seeking Improvement, Canyon Tree Outreach Committee.

(Motion Carried)

Wivory Brandle moved to postpone final decision on remaining grant application from Neighborhood Appreciation Day Committee until May 3, 2004, when a representative of the group will be available to answer questions.

(Brandle/House/carried)

4. Overview – Community Police Review Commission

Commission Director Don Williams presented an overview of roles and responsibilities of the commission followed by Question and Answer. Mr. Williams will provide the board with copies of the Annual Report at their next board meeting.

5. Role of the RNP in the Neighborhoods

Staff brought forward this item on behalf of board member Suzy Q Parker. Members were reminded of their duty as conduits between the neighborhoods they represent and city hall. Staff will mail a list of neighborhood leaders to the membership to assist them in making contact with neighborhood leaders in their respective RNP representation areas.

6. Absenses

Article IV, Section 4 of RNP bylaws reads as follows:

“Members may be removed from the RNP board by an affirmative vote of 2/3rds for cause including the following reasons:

- Absence from three consecutive regular meetings, unless by permission of the RNP as expressed in the official minutes;
- Incompetence, malfeasance, misfeasance, nonfeasance, neglect of duty, or conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude.

Upon the request of the board, the Office of Neighborhoods staff provided a report of attendance over the last nine months. Due to a high number of unexcused absences last year, upon a vote of the membership in accordance with the above article of the bylaws, John Arroyos and Rita Nieto were removed from the board as of April 5, 2004.

(McNiel/Stearns/carried)

Staff to prepare letters for signature of the chair and inform alternates.

7. Neighborhood Reports

(Area 5): Laura Powers reported that there will be a meeting regarding the Ag Park contamination on 4/15. The Arlanza Community Garden hosted a Cesar Chavez event on 4/3. Report of homeless dwelling in tents at the top of Tyler.

(Chamber – La Sierra) Erin House reported that the Rancho La Sierra Development is going to the city council on 4/6.

(Colony Heights Historic Neighborhood Association) David McNiel reported that his neighborhood association is working on a website that will be launched through Yahoo! Soon and that the group will be using an email tree to supplement its Neighborhood Watch. They will be sharing emails with the membership of the Mt. Rubidoux Historic District membership. This came about after a rash of burglaries hit the neighborhood. He also reported on a proposal going to council to limit the number of felons living together to two without a permit. This will be going to the council’s Land Use meeting.

(Orangecrest/Mission Grove Neighborhood Partnership) Jay Dyer reported that he was elected to the board of his association recently. They will be meeting regarding MARB becoming an international cargo port as well as an agreement with the Air Reserve Base to keep “curfew” of 10:00 pm. This will need citywide support.

(Casa Blanca Park Advisory Committee) Jacob Hernandez reported that the community will be renaming a room at the library after a longtime resident and supporter of area youth. In addition, the CAG held its elections, and Dennis Garcia and Anna Martinez will be President and Vice President for the coming year. He also reported on a variety of field trips to sporting/recreational venues that Park Advisory is taking kids to as well as news about the upcoming Cinco de Mayo celebration on May 1 and 2.

(University Neighborhood Association) Steve Stearns reminded everyone of the May 24 banquet at the Riverside Sports Hall of Fame.

(Eastside Community Advisory Committee) Christina Duran reported that the ECAC had 25 people attend its second meeting. Things are going well for this new group.

8. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Mayor’s Challenge Committee – None
- b. Traffic Committee – None

9. Office of Neighborhood Report

Office of Neighborhoods staff updated the board as to activities surrounding the annual neighborhood conference planning and other activities currently underway in the division.

10. Future Agenda Items: Caucus Planning, Youth Awards, Homeless Coordinator at future meeting, library update as to final split with the county.

11. Other Business:

- Mary Jane Dana from Tiburon Neighborhood Association reported that their group hosted a Christmas Progressive Dinner; that they have planned for May 1, 2004, a 15 to 20 family yard sale; and that they are planning a low-key international themed 4th of July event.
- Marlo from Rancho La Sierra made a brief presentation regarding the development of 655 acres in La Sierra. The item goes to city council on Tuesday April 6, 2004.

12. Next Meeting: May 3, 2004, 6:30pm – Mayor’s Ceremonial Room

13. Meeting adjourned

Minutes prepared by Office of Neighborhoods